

Rotary

Club of Pasadena, CA



A CENTURY OF SERVICE



SPOKES NEWSLETTER

DISTRICT 5300 * Rotary Club 794 * April 16, 2021 * #21-16

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This Week's Program

MICHELLE PERERA

Director of Libraries and Information Services

PPL: Thriving through it all! Learn how procedures, habits, and even staff assignments have pivoted during the crazy year that was 2020!

Now the libraries are reopening but expect some long-lasting changes

Introducer: JAN SANDERS



Michelle Perera was appointed Director of Libraries and Information Services for the City of Pasadena in December 2016. She has served in libraries throughout Southern California for more than 20 years. She has a master's degree in Library Science from California State University, San Jose and a bachelor's degree from the University of California, Riverside. In 2001, she completed the Institute for 21st Century Librarianship training at Stanford University.

Perera has garnered numerous honors for her work. In 2008, the California Library Association (CLA) gave her its public librarian "Award of Excellence." She later served on CLA's Board from 2011 to 2014 and as President of CLA in 2019. While serving as Rancho Cucamonga's Assistant Library Director in 2013, she was named a "Mover & Shaker" by the national Library Journal and won a National Medal for Museum and Library Service from the Institute of

Museum and Library Services, presented by First Lady Michelle Obama at the White House.

In Pasadena, Perera oversees 100 full-time employees and an annual budget of about \$15.3 million. The department includes Central Library and nine branch libraries, serving 1.3 million people per year in person, online or via social media. The Libraries offer virtual and in-person programs, free Wi-Fi services and an extensive collection of print materials, periodicals, media and eBooks. The Pasadena Public Library serves as a life-long learning center and cultural beacon for the greater Pasadena community.

11:45 am: Greeters

Scott Carlson - Jane Waas - Elisabeth Browne

Song Leader: **Ross Jutsum**

Inspiration: **Phyllis Mueller**

PAUL HARRIS FELLOW RECOGNITION

Geoff Johansing & Mike Farrand

Scout Zone Reporter: **Mary Lou Byrne**

Tech Team: **Frank Fish - Robert Lyons - Don Andruess - Ken White**

Zoom Team:

Scott Carlson - Kat Rogers - Frank Fish - Tammy Silver

Elisabeth Browne - Wendy Anderson

**** NEED HELP WITH ZOOM****

Tammy Silver - tamaramsilver@gmail.com - 626-744-9533



**Pasadena Rotary invites you to its Weekly Wednesday Meeting
April 21, 2021 at 12:00pm - 1:15pm**

** All or part of our weekly Rotary meeting may be recorded to assist with documenting donations, input, or other Pasadena Rotary business.*

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84583324183?
pwd=R3p1bEtTWHp4R0FjLy82VIFKR0x3Zz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84583324183?pwd=R3p1bEtTWHp4R0FjLy82VIFKR0x3Zz09)

Meeting ID: 845 8332 4183

Passcode: 073016

NOTE:

IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE AND COUNTY MANDATES AND FOLLOWING PHASED IN REOPENING OF GATHERED GROUPS, AND IN CONSIDERATION OF THE SAFETY AND WELL-BEING OF THE PASADENA ROTARY CLUB MEMBERSHIP:

PASADENA ROTARY IN-PERSON MEETINGS ARE POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.
THIS MAY CHANGE, AND AS THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA'S PLANS TO REOPEN BUSINESSES AND GROUP MEETINGS UNFOLD, WE WILL KEEP EVERYONE UPDATED ON THE STATUS OF PASADENA ROTARY CLUB'S IN-PERSON MEETINGS.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



President Ken and Marina celebrating their granddaughter's first birthday last week!

Hello Pasadena Rotary!

This past week, our Restart Committee met for the second time and is meeting every two weeks. On the committee is IPP Scott Vandrick, myself, PE Cory Brendel, Fred Findley, Sandi Mejia, Desiree Alvarado, Frank Fish, Wendy Anderson and Cyrus Afshin. Our goal is to plan the restart of in-person, face to face meetings at the University Club.

When we will meet will depend on the City of Pasadena giving the "green light" for indoor social events and it could happen soon! Clearly, there will be restrictions and protocols which will need to be followed to ensure your safety. We also plan to have a "hybrid meeting," which means you will have the option to join us for lunch at the University Club or continue watching the meetings via Zoom.

There are a number of moving parts and decisions that will need to be made and we will be asking for your input. Please feel free to reach out to any of our committee members or myself.

I am always available to meet with you for a cup of coffee.

In Your Service,

THE SCOOT ZONE

By **Mary Lou Byrne**, Bureau Chief Emeritus



President Ken Joe, live from the University Club, rang the bell and called the meeting to order promptly at noon. **Past President Mary Lou Byrne** led the songs, which she described as a musical play in two acts in which she played the part of our guest speaker **Paul Martin**.

Act I -- Paul learns he will be speaking at Rotary:

California, here I come
Right back where I started from
Where bowers of flowers bloom
in the sun
Each morning at dawning birdies
sing about vaccines and
Ro-ta-ry said "Don't be late"
That's why I can hardly wait
Open up those Golden Gates
California, here I come!



Act II - Paul's speech:

I'm a Yankee Doodle dandy
A Yankee Doodle, do or die
A real live nephew of my Uncle Sam
Born on the Fourth of July
I've got a Yankee Ro-ta-ry Club
It's my Yankee Doodle joy
Yankee Doodle went to Seoul to
Ride out the pandemic
I am the Yankee Doodle boy!

Laura Huang gave the inspiration, in which she shared from *The Analects of Confucius*, which inspired her a lot in her life.



President Ken presented the poll question, which he said many members had been asking for. Here are the results: Are you fully or partially vaccinated 87%, intend to be vaccinated 6%, decline to be vaccinated 4%, undecided 4%.

Relatedly, **President Ken** announced that the Re-Start committee just had its second meeting and is excited about how quickly things are moving forward towards resuming in-person Rotary meetings. "Good days are coming soon," he assured us. He also assured us, in response to a question in chat, that "at this time, there is no correlation between vaccinations and re-opening in-

person." He said, "at this point social events are not yet allowed at U Club per state guidelines but when they are there will be no vaccine requirement unless mandated by the state."

Announcements:

President Ken reminded us that District Assembly is next week. "It's free and it's local," he said. "It'll be in your own room via Zoom!" Information Below.

[District Assembly | Rotary International District 5300.](#)

Howard Raff announced the University Club is hosting a complimentary networking luncheon on April 22. Information Below. [Virtual Networking Luncheon with Dr. Bill Saleebey - University Club of Pasadena](#)

Cyril Vergis, on behalf of himself and co-chair **Wendy Anderson**, announced a meeting of the Small Business Alliance on Monday at 4 p.m., featuring **Desiree Alvarado** as the spotlight speaker. Contact **Wendy or Cyril** for Zoom info.

Phil Miles happily announced that his daughter Brenna is returning home from New York City on Saturday for about a month to see her mum and dad for the first time in a whole year, now that they are all fully vaccinated. He donated \$50 pto the polio pig in celebration.

Dean Billman made a polio pig donation of \$94 in memory of his dad for Neil Billman, who passed away one year ago at age 94. Neil was a polio survivor and the reason Dean joined the Club. "Thank you for all the memories, Dad," said Dean.

Tammy Silver introduced our guests, including Les from Glendale Sunrise, who's "here to see what other clubs are doing." Good idea and something we should all consider doing!

Eric Duyshart presented his ever-popular Pasadena in Five report:

Regarding COVID, "things are looking up but we have had 339 deaths in Pasadena, average age 81 years." We are now at 76,000 Pasadenans with one or both vaccine doses - that's about 65%, and 40% fully vaccinated. Eric has seen some Pasadena Rotarians while working at vaccination clinic and says that's always fun!



PUSD schools are partially back in class in-person. That will make it easier for parents to work, and hopefully get businesses back up and running. "Please support your local businesses," **Eric** urged.

COVID has impacted health, the economy, and local government. "When you add it all up, Pasadena has taken a \$70 million hit so far," Eric said. The federal government is looking finally at sending resources to local governments but even best case that would only cover about 2/3 of that amount or \$52 million.

In health news, the Cedars Sinai/Huntington Hospital partnership is moving forward. Methodist Hospital is pursuing a partnership with Keck-USC. Kaiser Permanente and City of Hope are going strong and there is a growing UCLA

footprint so we are fortunate to have all these healthcare resources, Eric reported.

Union Station Homeless Services has received a contract for implementation of the Mainstream Voucher Program for transitional housing in an amount not to exceed \$980,514, so that is good news.

The City continues the long process to make sure it has a limited number of higher quality/safe marijuana retailers, Eric reported. In other business news, the Playhouse Business Improvement District will expand its official boundaries a bit when it is up for renewal on May 24. We are expecting a half marathon in Pasadena in September and January, which will help local businesses. Home Depot has opened on Walnut St, finally. There is a lot of movement among car dealers, including the swap of the Volvo dealership location and the addition of electric car companies And on May 7 Pasadena City College and other community colleges will host a virtual job fair.



Scott Carder introduced our speaker, Paul Martin. Paul and his wife Jumi are the founders and owners of [CRAIC Technologies](#), which makes very fancy scientific instruments.

Paul opened by saying it was 4:00 in the morning where he is, "so there's a reason I haven't been attending meetings." Nevertheless he looked very alert in his fancy "gaming chair!"

He opened by saying, "My wife Jumi and I started a scientific instrument company and decided to open a branch in South Korea in 2019 because of the airport hub there. The plan was to have a bicoastal lifestyle. 'Flying across the Pacific is so easy,' we said. Oh boy, were we wrong!" We miscalculated just a bit, he confessed, what with the pandemic and all.

International travel today: To fly internationally out of LAX you need a valid PCR COVID test (not a rapid test) within 72 hours of boarding, at \$125 per person, plus more when you get to Korea. "They swab down the throat and up your nose to tickle your brain," Paul explained. While traveling, you wear masks at all times. Fortunately Korean masks are comfortable, well-fitting, and cheap. Social distancing is not a problem because nobody else is flying internationally! And that's all before you board the plane.

Paul showed us a photo of LAX Tom Bradley Terminal, which was practically empty on the day they left a couple of weeks ago. The security line was completely empty - Paul said it took just 2-3 min to get through.

On the plane there were 40 passengers with seating for 311 -Paul knows because he counted the seats. "Lots of room to spread out." He showed us a photo of a flight attendant in full PPE - mask, gown, gloves.

Upon landing in Korea, Paul reported, the terminal seemed deserted. Here's the procedure upon arrival: Thermal check and inspection of COVID docs including LAX test results; install quarantine app on phone and have it activated and tested by an officer at a second interview; go through customs; go through exit inspection.

Can we go home now? No! Take a special quarantine taxi (with higher fares, of course) to a health center and take PCR test #2. "I'm getting really used to having things set down my throat and up my nose," observed Paul wryly. But you get a swag bag including a biohazard bag for the next two weeks of trash! Next: Two weeks quarantine at home, with twice-daily temp checks, random checks by quarantine officer, checks to make sure you are home and not out with your phone left at home. Food packages were delivered ("fortunately we had stocked up on wine"), mental health therapy offered for those having difficulties in quarantine, another PCR test at the end of two weeks (again, quarantine taxi to health center). Then, freedom!

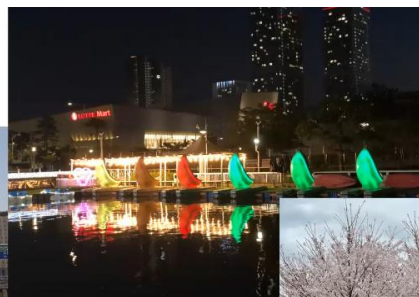
Paul explained, "we decided to live in Songdo as it was close to the Incheon airport. It's a suburb of Incheon which is a suburb of Seoul. Seoul/Incheon has about 25 million people in 4600 square miles (the same area as L.A. county with population of 10 million) - that's half the total population of South Korea.



Songdo didn't exist 20 years ago - it's 1500 acres of reclaimed land on Incheon Harbor. It's a modern "smart" city - fully computerized traffic, energy, and waste (very complicated with separate bags that go into pneumatic tubes). There are huge parks and wide streets. Paul said "it's s-So clean and you feel so safe! Very unlike downtown Seoul."

Paul showed us photos of Central Park: Rabbit Island is in the middle of the water so the rabbits won't escape and breed. The performance venue has been closed in pandemic but has still been lit up every night. Mr. & Mrs. Kim are the names Paul and Jumi gave to the the mule deer in the park. "It's a Nice combination of new and old even though nothing here is actually very old" he said. Last week was peak cherry blossom time. Very unique architecture and a lot of public art. There are boats in the park that you can ride around in - it's like a mini-NYC Central Park. Paul has been getting his exercise and showed us photos of his daily 3 km walk around the park with beautiful lotus and cherry blossoms.

LIVING HERE



Because they

were there for longer than planned they had to do some shopping, which was challenging because Asian sizes are much smaller than US sizes. "Generally I'm a size M shirt in US, but in Asian sizes the clothes look like kids' clothes!" Paul said ruefully.



Korea has what Paul described as wild weather: Cold winter, muggy summer, perfect spring and fall, but in spring there are yellow dust storms from the Gobi Desert in China (and that's how the Yellow Sea got its name). The good part is it makes absolutely stunning sunsets. That's why the Korean face masks are so good and cheap - they've been using them for years to fend off the dust! There are also typhoons - there were five just in the last year!

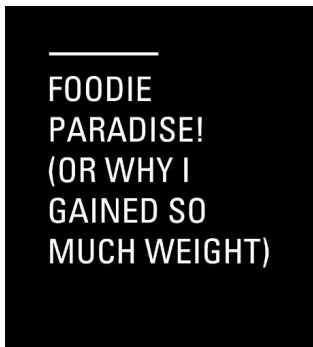
Paul's advice for exploring Korea: Get a lowpowered late model car. Gas is really expensive. Required gadgets: Parking is tight so get the cameras/sensors, speed cameras are everywhere so you need the database in your car so it will warn you, and it's really easy to get lost so you need GPS.

Beaches on the Yellow Sea have huge tides and mud at low tide- great for clamming! There are lots of islands to explore... someday. (Ferry services have been cut way back due to COVID.)



Pro tip: Don't stop close to the DMZ - "police and military response times are amazing!" Good news: the interrogation was very gentle and polite and they suggested a place for lunch: "WAY down the other way!"

Koreans love hiking and there are wonderful mountains along the east coast with streams, waterfalls, lots of rugged hiking. There are 22 national parks and Seoraksan Park is the crown jewel. Paul showed us a photo of a London double-decker bus, of all things, parked outside a British themed hotel. There are many temples even in the parks. Singeungsa Temple is in Seoraksan park - it's over 1400 years old! You can be out hiking and will run across a beautiful temple in perfect repair.



Finally, Paul said "this is a foodie paradise, and that's why I've gained about 25 pounds and now I'm on a strict diet. The food is so fresh and delicious. The hot and trendy thing right now is beef sashimi. There

are a lot of microbreweries opening up and that is my weakness!" And of course Korean BBQ is a thing. Restaurants never closed down in the Pandemic and Paul and Jumi are eating out 4-5 times a week. And if you get tired of Korean food, there is also pizza, beer and burgers!

President Ken thanked Paul for his talk and noted "you are well liked, Paul! We have one of the highest attendance levels at this meeting!"

SPOTLIGHT ON PASADENA ROTARY 'FUR-ish' FAMILY

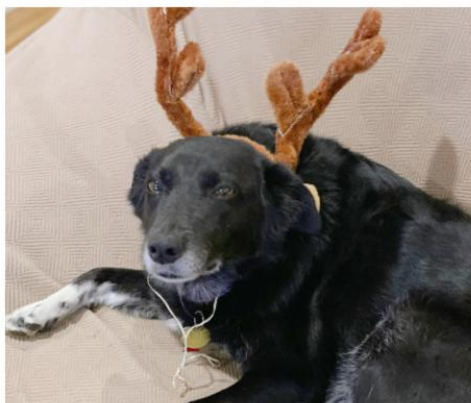
For many of us, our cherished pets have kept us sane, motivated and kept us comforted in only ways they know how to do during this Pandemic. We thought we would spotlight some of our Rotarian pet family members! If you wish to Spotlight a member of your 'fur-ish' family send photos & a sentence or two about them to Wendy at office@pasadenarotary.com.

Spotlight on Cleo, Bobbie, Curley, Malee & Sprite from Julie Banks

Cleo is a calico and a superstar. Bobbie is a terrier/poodle mix and Curley is an orange tabby. They are not really friends but neither want to leave the couch!

Malee is a border collie mix and just goes with the flow.

Sprite is a bearded dragon and she is Awesome!



NEXT WEEK SPOTLIGHTS HENDRIX (Phil Miles)

MEETINGS & EVENTS CALENDAR

BUSINESS ALLIANCE MEETING

Monday, April 19th at 4:30 pm

SPOTLIGHT: Desiree Alvarado, CEO Crown Promotions Group/Pasadena Promos

Co-chairs: Cyril Vergis (cyril@arosacre.com) & Wendy Anderson
(wowproductions2@gmail.com)

ROTARY READERS

Monday, May 3rd at 6:00 pm

Mary Wilson will lead the discussion of Talking to Strangers by Malcolm Gladwell

Co-chairs: Jan Sanders (janinpasadena@gmail.com) & Cathy Simms
(simmsie1@pacbell.net)

A MOMENT IN ROTARY TIME **Pasadena Rotary Wine Club - 2013**

Held at Everson Royce Wine & Spirits on Raymond

Co-Chairs: Marshall Fuss & Wendy Anderson



DISTRICT 5300 - 2021 VIRTUAL DISTRICT ASSEMBLY **NO COST TO ATTEND TO DEVELOP LEADERSHIP SKILLS**

April 20, 2021: 5:30 - 6:30 pm SERVICE PROJECTS 6:30 - 7:30 pm FUNDRAISING

April 27, 2021: 5:30 - 6:30 pm MEMBERSHIP 6:30 - 7:30 pm PUBLIC IMAGE

May 4, 2021: 5:30 - 6:15 pm Secretary Training OR Treasurer Training OR
Board of Directors Training 6:30 - 8:00 pm: GRANT MANAGEMENT

[DISTRICT 5300 ASSEMBLY](#) for more info and to register

POLIO PIG ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wish to show a photo & tell us what you are up to - Wish to make an announcement about your family or your favorite nonprofit. Email Wendy at office@pasadenarotary.com by Tues at noon. Minimum donation: \$20.00

ADOPT-A-MEAL PARTICIPATING RESTAURANT

Show appreciation to restaurants/caterers supporting our monthly Adopt-A-Meal Program for Union Station Homeless Services Family Center

- **CABRERA'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT**, 655 N. Lake (Orange Grove) 626-795-8230 www.cabrerass.com
- **UNIVERSITY CLUB OF PASADENA**, Click on Calendar for their "menu" and other virtual & live events. 626-793-5157 www.universityclubpasadena.com
- **GREEN STREET RESTAURANT**, 146 Shoppers Lane, 626-577-7170 www.greenstreetrestaurant.com
- **KETCHEF with Benjamin Berard** 213-458-8854 MyKETCHEF@gmail.com Brings the restaurant experience to your home. www.KETCHEF.com
- **MIJARES MEXICAN RESTAURANT** Celebrating 100 years in Pasadena, 145 Palmetto Drive, 626-792-2763 www.mijaresrestaurant.com
- **SANSAI**, 350 S. Lake Ave., The Shops on Lake Ave. 626-683-0900 <http://www.sansaigrill.com/>
- **PIE 'N BURGER**, 913 E. California Blvd. 626-795-1123 www.pienburger.com
- **MOFFETT'S Family Restaurant & Chicken Pie Shoppe** 626-447-4670 1409 S. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia www.moffettsfamilyrestaurant.com
- **GO CHINA RESTAURANT**, Mandarin & Szechuan Cuisine 626-793-3888 136 N. Lake Ave <http://www.gochinarestaurants.com> Open daily 11 am to 9 pm

OUTDOOR LUNCH DINING IS NOW OPEN!

For Weekly Menus and Specials

www.universityclubpasadena.com



We're Open for Outdoor Dining!
Enjoy Our Weekly Menu for Lunch on the Patio,
or Pick up Lunch & Dinner To Go Monday-Friday
Please Call (626) 793-5157 for Reservations & To Go Orders


Polio Pig Announcement

UNIVERSITY CLUB OF PASADENA

**VIRTUAL
NETWORKING
LUNCHEON:
PSYCHOLOGICAL CONCEPTS
& SKILLS FOR VIRTUAL
NETWORKING**

with
DR. BILL SALEEBEY
Keynote Speaker, Networking Coach,
Business Development Trainer, & Author of
"Networking in the Virtual Age"

THURSDAY, APRIL 22, 2021 VIA ZOOM
**12:00PM - 1:30PM | Complimentary
Lunch To Go Available for Purchase**
Please RSVP (626) 793-5157 or
frontdesk@universityclubpasadena.com

 (626) 793-5157 | UNIVERSITYCLUBPASADENA.COM
175 NORTH OAKLAND AVENUE | PASADENA, CA 91101

Resignation

John Peck - Trust Attorney, Member since 3/1/1995

Happy Birthday To These Rotarians!

Richard Gray	April 20th
Joel Sheldon	April 20th
Will Hoyman	April 20th
Eric Duyshart	April 21st
Anne Miskey	April 22nd

Rotaversary!

Leah Snell	April 16, 2008	13 years
Eric Klinkner	April 16, 2014	7 years
Diana Peterson More	April 22, 1998	23 years

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- April 28 **Community Grants** - Co-Chairs: **Sheryl Guerrero & Deborah Lewis**
- May 5 Tom Coston, Light Bringer Project, *"Everything You Wanted to Know About the Other Parade"*
Pasadena in Five with **Eric Duyshart**
- May 12 Chad Augustin, Pasadena Fire Chief
- May 19 Teachers of Excellence - Co-Chairs **Lisa Cavelier & Sandy Goodenough**
- May 26 Pasadena Rotarian **Jeff Palmer**, Golden Gate Bridge

SPOKES is a weekly newsletter published by the Rotary Club of Pasadena.

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175 N Oakland Avenue
Pasadena CA 91101
*Complimentary Valet Parking

Should you have questions regarding this publication, please call Wendy Anderson at 626-683-8243 or send us an email to office@pasadenarotary.com.

Scout Zone Reporters: Mary Lou Byrne & Justene Adamec



Rotary Opens Opportunities

See you on Wednesday!

WEBSITE UPDATE:

Chair Paul Martin - www.pasadenarotary.com

Looking for Spokes go to the website, scroll down the homepage to [This Week in Spokes](#).